

**NJIT**

New Jersey's Science &  
Technology University

*THE EDGE IN KNOWLEDGE*

# Accelerated BS/MS in Physician Assistant



**New Jersey Institute of Technology**

**University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey**

## WHY BECOME A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT?

Physician assistant (PA) is the fastest growing profession in the United States according to *Money* magazine. With the increased demand for health care as the population ages, as well as growing emphasis on cost containment, jobs for physician assistants in doctors' offices and other outpatient settings are expected to grow by 50 percent over the next decade. *Money* also ranks PAs among the five best jobs in the country based on growth potential, job security, stress level and salary.

Working under a physician's supervision, PAs do many of the same tasks as doctors – perform physical exams, diagnose and treat illness, order and interpret tests, write prescriptions, counsel patients on preventive health. But they do it in a regular 35-40 hour week, without the hassles a physician faces in running a business and dealing with billing and insurance providers.

## WHY STUDY FOR A CAREER AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AT NJIT AND UMDNJ?

NJIT and UMDNJ have established an accelerated 6-year program leading to a BS degree from NJIT and a Master of Science in Physician Assistant degree from UMDNJ. The program includes three years of undergraduate education at NJIT followed by three years of professional education in physician assistant at UMDNJ. The senior undergraduate year is also the first year of the MSPA curriculum, so students save time and cost. Students major in biology, chemistry, or science, technology and society with a physician assistant emphasis in the College of Science and Liberal Arts. Engineering science is another possible major.

### WHAT KIND OF CLINICAL EXPERIENCES ARE OFFERED?

A series of clinical experiences offered in various medical specialties which are conducted in hospitals, clinics and private medical practices. Through close supervision, students will have the opportunity to develop clinical skills, including the understanding of the management of common illnesses. The Physician Assistant Internship consists of 55 weeks of clinical rotations. There are nine required rotations – internal medicine, surgery, family medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, intensive care medicine, emergency medicine, psychiatry, and medical sub-specialties, and one elective rotation.

### ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH?

Undergraduate students in the College of Science and Liberal Arts have many opportunities to gain valuable research experience and learn about the latest technologies in programs such as the Undergraduate Research Experience, Ronald McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program, and capstone programs in many majors, and internships and co-op assignments often include a research component.

### WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS

Students apply to NJIT in the usual way, and then apply to the MSPA program in their third year of undergraduate study. The applicant must have an overall and science grade point average of no less than 3.0 (on a scale where 4.0 equals A.) Applicants are interviewed by the Physician Assistant Admissions Committee to identify qualities, such as communication skills, motivation, and general interpersonal skills. The applicant should demonstrate a clear understanding of the PA role and how this fits into the applicant's career goals. The applicant is reminded that competition is very keen for the available spaces.

### IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?

The Office of Student Financial Aid Services helps to provide NJIT students with every opportunity to obtain funding to support their educational costs. The university encourages all students to apply for financial aid.

<http://www.njit.edu/admissions/financialaid/index.php>

NJIT undergraduates can also offset educational costs by participating in the Cooperative Education Program, which provides a student with the opportunity to gain practical work experience in a professional environment. A co-op student works on a full-time or part-time basis for a company that has agreed to hire, train, and pay the student during a specific co-op work cycle.

<http://www.njit.edu/admissions/undergrad/coop.php>

### NJIT AT A GLANCE

- New Jersey's Science and Technology University, founded in 1881.
- Enrollment of just over 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students in six schools provides small-college intimacy with big university resources.
- 45-acre campus with a recently-completed \$83-million construction program featuring a new Campus Center.
- A *Princeton Review* "Best Value College" and "Top 25 Most Connected College."
- Ranks 8th in the nation in diversity with students from more than 100 countries
- 13:1 faculty-student ratio.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marc T. Sequeira  
Assistant to the Dean, CSLA  
973-596-3345, [sequeira@njit.edu](mailto:sequeira@njit.edu)

### TO APPLY:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions, 1-800-925-NJIT  
Or apply on line:  
[http://www.njit.edu/admissions/undergrad/undergrad\\_apply.php](http://www.njit.edu/admissions/undergrad/undergrad_apply.php)